

## PAN-ELECTRIC MATTERS.

PROBABLE COURSE OF THE PRESIDENT.

DEMOCRATS WHO THINK AN INVESTIGATION IS NECESSARY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Following is part of a double-headed editorial, entitled: "A great Scheme Defeated," in the *Capital* of to-day:

"We are very glad to know and to be able to state on sufficient authority that President Cleveland does not propose to reorganize his Cabinet at the instance of the Bell Telephone Company. Those people, who are able to control two large newspapers that have long been seeking to find a weak spot in the weak points of the reform Administration, have seized upon the ridiculous Pan-Electric Telephone affair as material for a very loud demonstration against members of the Cabinet."

The managers of the latter, the Bell Company evidently believe that Mr. Cleveland can be scared out of his purpose of authorizing a suit to test the validity of the Bell patents. But they are wholly mistaken.

When will people get the silly idea out of their heads that Mr. Cleveland is a man who can be bullied or frightened? The extraordinary tactics that have been pursued in this affair have simply resulted in convincing the President that it is of the utmost importance to secure the proposed legal test of the great telephone patents and the whole power of the Administration will be exerted, if need be, to secure this result. The Bell Telephone Company has not longer such power nor has Mr. Roosevelt Conkling sufficient influence and power in New York to prevent Justice from being done in this matter, nor can they weaken in the slightest degree the status of Mr. Garland or Mr. Lamar as members of Mr. Cleveland's Cabinet."

Another writer in *The Capital*, speaking evidently by authority, declares that all publications which represent the President and Mr. Garland as "influential to the attacks upon the latter, are untrue. Both take so lively an interest in the matter that nearly everything published on the subject has been discussed by them not only in private but with other members of the Cabinet. It is asserted that every new point brought out is given attention, but that the President has expressed his wish that the members of the Cabinet should at present take no part in the controversy because he feels that the future will vindicate Mr. Garland and because the source of the motives, and the purpose of the war upon the Attorney-General are fully understood."

The author of the article, apparently forgetting the action of the President last October which resulted in the discontinuance of the suit brought in such ineffectual haste by the Department of Justice, intimates that Mr. Cleveland's attention was not arrested by the original exposures in *The Capital*, and that he waited until two Democratic newspapers "took up the fight" before he "brought to ascertain the cause of the war upon the Capital." On the authority of "an intimate friend" of the President, it is asserted that this latter has informed him that, while the New-York newspapers, with a few exceptions, have been subsidized by the Bell Telephone Company, through a firm of Democratic lawyers, "that the price paid for the use of these newspapers is very large, as much as \$8,000 having been paid for the publication of a single article." It is with the article further on the subject that "intimate friend" of the President, "in the first place, intimations have been received by him, which in authority that the attack would cease when the prosecution was abandoned." He continues:

"The above intimations were conveyed to the President by Mr. Parker for Soldier General Godele and directed him to make as great noise as was consistent with proper preparation of the case, to play whatever may befitting. He said that he would himself select the attorney to meet Mr. Coco in the case in behalf of the Government."

The President will also after proper inquiry determine for himself where the suit should be brought. These two matters he has taken care of, and will not even be mentioned in making a selection. Mr. Garland has not exchanged a word with Mr. Godele upon the subject of the suit. He has instructed the chief of the Department to tell Mr. Coco of every letter that has been sent upon the subject, and knows no more about the preparation of the case or the plans of the Government than a child in the street. All the information Mr. Garland has received has come from the President."

It seems that President Cleveland and his "Reform" Administration, after taking pains to ascertain the nature and extent of Mr. Garland's relation to the Pan-Electric corporation, stands ready to approve, justify and defend his acts. It is creditable to many prominent members of Mr. Cleveland's own party that they do not hold the representative of the law in contempt.

Representative Holman said:

"There may be no one, unknown as yet, which will put an end to the investigation. It has done so far to my knowledge, and has been said, however, that it does not seem to me that a full and thorough investigation by the House can be avoided. The honor of the House, I suppose, remained because there was a bill introduced in the New-York Legislature in course. All the facts should be brought out."

Several other prominent Democratic members to-day expressed the opinion that a full and thorough investigation is absolutely necessary. One Representative, who is an eminent lawyer, yesterday said:

"I expected that as soon as the bill was introduced, and other directors and shareholders in the Pan-Electric Company, who are officers of the Government, including Senator Harron, I was anxious to see what they did not do, so I felt certain that there must be an investigation when they requested it or not. Attorney-General Godele and his associates in the Senate, and other members of Congress, will be the ones to decide whether or not to appropriate the payment of fees of attorneys and witnesses."

It is evident that the bill will pass the House and after ward with an amendment passed the Senate but it died on the House calendar. Mr. Farnagh has introduced the bill, and a bill introduced in the Senate, and the New-York Legislature will provide for the appointment of a Judge living in course."

THE PROBLEMS FOR THE LEGISLATURE.

LOCAL OPTION—THE BRIDGE BILLS—LONG BRANCH MUNICIPALITY.

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 7.—The legislators will find their hands full during the session week, to open-to-morrow evening. The Local Option bill will come up in the Senate and require some time and no little discussion, and following it will be Senator Chase's bill to request legislative approval for the plans of the Staten Island bridge. In the Assembly the Washington Street (Jersey City) bridge will be reported, and one of the most stirring contests of the Senate will then be fairly begun.

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THE POWER OF THE LAST OF BARROS'S ALLIES THREATENED.

THE ACCOUNT OF THE FILIBUSTERING EXPEDITION WHICH Sailed ON THE STEAMSHIP SAN DOMINGO, WHICH WAS FIRST RECEIVED WITH INCREDULITY BY PERSONS CONVERSANT WITH SOUTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

THEIR ARRIVAL IN HONDURAS AND THEIR IMMEDIATE DISMISSEMENT.

THEIR RECEPTION IN HONDURAS AND THEIR IMMEDIATE DISMISSEMENT.